

Daycare and Head Start Immunization Validation Survey

Results of the 2003 - 2004 Daycare and Head Start Validation

*Data in this report was collected from
validation surveys conducted by ISDH
immunization field representatives at a
sample of 42 Daycare centers and
34 Head Start sites throughout Indiana*



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Preface

In 2003, new immunization requirements for childcare facilities were set in Indiana. Indiana Code 12-17.5-2.5 requires childcare centers to submit an annual report to the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) verifying their compliance with the immunization requirements set for children enrolled at their facilities. Validation of these reports are normally conducted on a biannual basis (i.e. the last validation report was completed for the 2002-2003 assessment period), but due to the change in requirements in childcare facilities, the Immunization Program at ISDH decided to validate immunization report results on a non-assessment year. The results of the Daycare and Head Start validation survey are presented in this report.

Methods

A random sample of 42 Daycare and 34 Head Start sites was selected from the ISDH Immunization Program childcare database. The random sample procedure followed the methods developed by the Assessment Branch of the National Immunization Program at the CDC. Factors involved in the sampling procedures included: total number of enrolled children, approximate immunization coverage levels, and acceptable level of error in sampling.

ISDH immunization field representatives reviewed records for the up-to-date status of attendees at each of the 42 Daycare centers and 34 Head Start sites selected for validation. Complete immunization levels for each site were then calculated and compared with the site's reported immunization coverage levels for the 2003-2004 assessment year. Daycare immunization rates were reviewed for two age groups, 15 to 23 months of age and 2 to 5 years old. Immunization rates for Head Start children from 2 to 5 years of age were assessed for the report. After validation was completed, site information was submitted to the Assessment Epidemiologist for analysis.

Summary Tables and Graphs

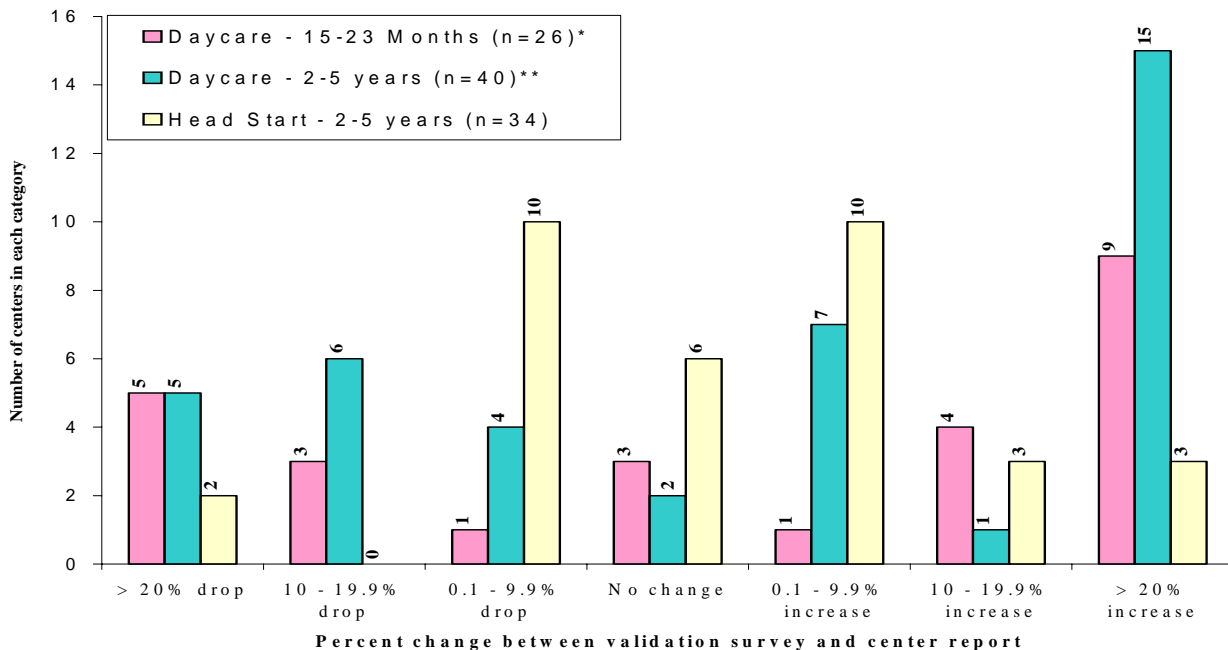


Figure 1. Percent change between validation surveys and Daycare and Head Start annual reports, 2003-2004 Indiana immunization validation survey.

*Daycare rates for 15 to 23 month old children could only be collected in 26 sites; some daycares validated did not house this age group

**Daycare sites missing immunization report data (n=2) could not be included in statistical analysis

Table 1. Results of Daycare immunization report validation survey, Indiana, 2003 - 2004.

Daycare Facilities (42 validated*)				
	15-23 months of age		2 – 5 years of age	
	2003-2004 Daycare Report	2003-2004 Validation Survey	2003-2004 Daycare Report	2003-2004 Validation Survey
Number of Daycare sites included	26	26*	40	40*
Number of children enrolled	379	246	2835	2553
Number of children examined	379	246	2835	2341
Number of children adequately immunized	209 (55.1%)	179 (72.8%)	2046 (72.2%)	1966 (84.0%)

*Two childcare sites could not be included in report due to the fact that these sites did not have children who fell into the eligible age categories

** Standardized sampling techniques were followed for reviewing records at centers with > 100 enrolled students.

Table 2. Results of Head Start immunization report validation survey, Indiana, 2003-2004.

	2 to 5 years old	
	2003-2004 Head Start Report	2003-2004 Validation Survey
Number of Head Start sites included	34	34
Number of children enrolled	1792	1931
Number of children examined	1792	1714*
Number of children adequately immunized	1661 (92.7%)	1616 (94.3%)

* Standardized sampling techniques were followed for reviewing records at centers with > 100 enrolled students.

Recommendations and Conclusions

- The childcare validation completed in the off assessment year was important to verify daycare and Head Start facilities were properly recording immunization rates.
- Daycares and Head Start facilities overall scored higher on the validation report than in the Immunization Report. In all cases, the daycare and Head Start sites had more increases in rates than decreases or no change.
- All childcare centers should strictly enforce immunization policies to prevent the outbreak of vaccine-preventable diseases among their enrollees. Failure to comply is a violation of state law and it places susceptible children at risk for contracting an otherwise preventable disease.
- Underreporting of childcare immunization rates may be linked to: the highly variable nature of childcare center enrollment, lag time between reporting and validation (i.e. allowing children to get caught up on immunizations), and incorrect reporting by childcare centers.
- Overreporting in childcare centers immunization rates may be linked to: children receiving invalid doses which were counted by childcare centers in rates, but not included as valid according to state standards (i.e. not being counting as valid in validation report).